



Critter Chronicles

Summer 2022 | Vol 39 Issue 2

- Announcing the next President & CEO of WHS
- Hazel's road to recovery
- One songbird saved by another

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HAZEL'S ROAD TO RECOVERY

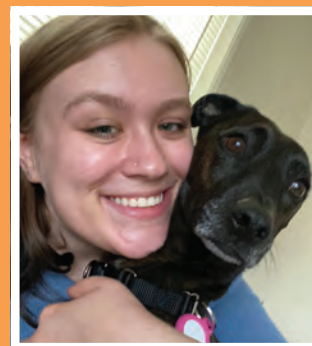


Hazel arrived at our Ozaukee Campus nervous and trembling with her tail tucked. We knew something was wrong and our veterinary team stepped in to investigate. Hazel was soon rushed into surgery where we found and removed six large bladder stones.

After nearly a week of closely monitored healing in our recovery ward, she was ready to finish her recuperation in foster care. It would be six more weeks of medication, healing, and regular checkups until our vets could finally clear Hazel for adoption.

With her health and spirits restored, she fits right in with her new family and is now a happy member of a two-dog home!

When she is not chasing her new brother around the house, Hazel keeps herself busy finding the squeaker in every toy and cuddling up close to her family at bedtime.



WHS RECEIVES \$300,000 FROM THE RACHAEL RAY FOUNDATION™ TO SUPPORT FOSTER PROGRAM

We recently shared that WHS received a phenomenal \$300,000 grant from The Rachael Ray Foundation™ to support our foster program. "We are absolutely floored by the continued generosity of our friends at The Rachael Ray Foundation," said Anne Reed, president and CEO at WHS. "Their incredible support has saved the lives of thousands of animals and we couldn't be more grateful for their partnership once again."

In 2021, 3,751 animals were cared for by 923 volunteer foster parents for WHS. Most foster animals are in recovery from an illness or injury, or are simply too young for adoption. Some foster parents even make adoption placements out of their homes, helping to alleviate space issues at the shelter. The goal of foster care is to better support the physical and behavioral health of animals in a home environment by

reducing stress and minimizing in-shelter length of stay.

The Rachael Ray Foundation™ is funded by a portion of proceeds from each sale of Rachael's pet food, Nutrish®. The Foundation funds organizations across the country who work to improve the lives of shelter animals and other animals in need. In addition, the Foundation makes funds available for emergency situations and disaster relief efforts where help for animals is urgently needed.

In anticipation of a busy summer, we are currently looking for new foster parents for dogs, cats, and small animals. **To become a foster parent for the Rachael Ray™ Nutrish® Foster Program at the Wisconsin Humane Society, simply visit wihumane.org/foster to get started.**



ENGAGING YOUTH IN ANIMAL WELFARE

Our youth programs team works to make our opportunities accessible so that young people across our communities can explore their interest in animal welfare. We engage young people through our partnerships with Auer Avenue Community School on Milwaukee's north side, as well as COA Youth and Family Services, Auer's after-school partner. Both Auer Avenue and COA are located in the heart of our Pets for Life focus community, where poverty and structural inequality create obstacles to accessible pet care information and services. Through our partnerships, our team has provided 350 kids with the opportunity to experience programs focused on animal behavior, body language, and ways to be a champion for animals.

We also work to remove barriers to participation in our programs. This summer marks the second year offering full scholarships to young people in need of financial assistance, so they may attend one of our week-long summer camps at no cost. We have awarded 47 scholarships to young people grades 1-9 to attend camp at our Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Racine Campuses this year. We're looking forward to a great summer!

Learn more about our programs for young people on our website: www.wihumane.org/for-kids. If you're interested in supporting opportunities for young people to learn more about careers in animal welfare, reach out to our development team at 414-431-6119.

WATCH OUT FOR TURTLES CROSSING ROADS!

Summer is peak travel time for many of us, and during these warm months, many species of turtle are on the move, as well. From April until October, turtle species in Wisconsin are up and active, and you may notice them basking in the sun at local ponds and rivers. Sometimes they may even wander into your yard, across parks, or even attempt to cross a roadway, seemingly far from a body of water. When this happens, these turtles are most likely females seeking a suitable location to lay eggs. Unfortunately, this journey can be a dangerous one in urban areas. Vehicle collisions are the primary cause of injury for turtles admitted to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.



If you come across a turtle near a roadway who has a cracked shell or is bleeding, it will need the help of a wildlife rehabilitator. If you're in Milwaukee County, that's us! Carefully contain her in a box, record the exact location of where you found it, and call us at 414-431-6204. If you're outside of our admission region, you can call the Department of Natural Resources at 1-888-936-7463 for a referral, or visit the Animal Help Now! App for a directory outside of Wisconsin.

BREWERS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION DRIVE FOR CHARITY

We would like to give a shoutout to the Milwaukee Brewers Community Foundation who recently helped collect supplies for WHS with their annual Drive for Charity!

The event was a huge success as we collected seven pallets of donations and raised nearly \$2,500 for animals in need during the Brewers opening homestand at American Family Field.

A heartfelt thank you to our media partner, Newsradio 620 WTMJ, and TWO MEN AND A TRUCK for helping us haul the many items back to WHS. We are so grateful to these wonderful organizations and our amazing supporters for donating throughout the event!



ANNOUNCING THE NEXT PRESIDENT & CEO OF WHS

We recently announced that Anne Reed, president and chief executive officer (CEO), plans to retire at the end of September 2022. The Board of Directors has appointed Alison Kleibor to succeed Anne as president & CEO on October 1, 2022. Alison is currently the executive vice president of WHS.

"On behalf of the board of directors, staff, and volunteers, we want to thank Anne for her outstanding leadership and impact over more than a decade with the Wisconsin Humane Society," said Dave Hecker, former board chair. "Anne's vision and strategy have transformed the organization, making a significant impact on thousands of animals and people in need, while deepening WHS's strength and sustainability."

Anne's tenure has been defined by improved outcomes for animals and significant growth of the organization. Outcomes for animals improved substantially under her leadership, from an average live-release rate of below 80% in 2010, to 91% in 2021, supported by a significant drive to reduce the time animals spend in the sheltering system. Progressive, people-centered approaches to adoption practices, medical and behavioral support, and foster programs have led to that success.

Since Anne began in January 2010, WHS has grown from 100 employees to 240 people as we opened state-of-the-art shelters in Saukville and Racine, launched the first high-volume public spay/neuter clinic in Milwaukee County, and acquired the animal shelters serving Racine, Green Bay, and Door County. WHS is now the primary organization serving one third of Wisconsin's animals and families.

"It has been an honor and privilege to serve as president and CEO during this period of impact and growth, and I want to offer my gratitude to our employees whose hard work, dedication, and openness to change have allowed WHS to achieve so much," said Anne. "I also want to thank our volunteers, donors, and communities for their steadfast support of our work."

"Anne has built a tremendous leadership team that consistently sets and exceeds challenging goals to improve the lives of animals and families in the communities we serve," said Dave. "We have excellent leaders across the organization, which is a huge strength that sets us up for continued success."

Alison joined the Wisconsin Humane Society in 2007 and in her 15 years with the organization, has held multiple senior leadership positions in client services, animal care, shelter operations, and shelter management. Most recently, she has led the development, communications, and human resources teams.

In addition to obtaining a graduate certificate and a master's degree in Veterinary Medical Sciences with a concentration in Shelter Medicine from the University of Florida, Alison has a master's degree from Alverno College, and a bachelor's degree from Marquette University. She is a Certified Animal Welfare Administrator, and a member of the Association for Animal Welfare Advancement.



ANNE REED & ALISON KLEIBOR

Alison was at the helm of some of WHS's largest animal rescues, from the emergency rescue of 94 animals from the condemned Orphan Kanines animal shelter in Racine in 2014, to the law enforcement seizure and intake of more than 160 animals from a home in Green Bay in 2021. She has also directed a dramatic expansion of WHS's foster program, culminating in a COVID response in 2020 in which hundreds of new foster families were onboarded and animals safely placed in their homes in the space of just a few days.

In addition, Alison has been instrumental in the evolution of WHS's people-centered philosophy, which guides the organizational approach to serving the public. In an industry that can often be judgmental or critical of people, WHS aims to build relationships with people using a welcoming, supportive, and non-judgmental approach. Alison's leadership behind this approach has transformed the ways in which WHS serves the public and bridges gaps that exist for animals in the community.

"Alison won't skip a beat, I couldn't dream of a better successor," said Anne.

"I want to thank Anne for her distinguished leadership at WHS, and also the board and our staff for their confidence in me as I step into this role," said Alison. "I am honored and excited to have the opportunity to continue to make a difference in the lives of animals and the people who love them."

GET TO KNOW ALISON KLEIBOR

Alison grew up in
Murray Kentucky



Her first job was
working in the
sheep and goat
barn at
the Wisconsin
State Fair

Hobbies include:

- Gardening
- Spending time up north
- Road trips



She's all about
basketball.



Loves to play,
watch, and has
even coached
5th grade!

Number of roles
she's held at WHS:

9!

From Adoption Counselor
to
Executive Vice President
- CEO Designate

Favorite movie:
Ghostbusters



Best advice Alison
has received:
Never stop learning



Alison and her
husband share their
home with their:

3 CHILDREN

3 DOGS

2 HAMSTERS

1 CAT

The most
beautiful place
she's traveled
to is Arches
National Park
in Utah



Alison's personal
hero is her Nana;
"She is strong,
smart, and generous
-
a trifecta"



WHS achievement she's most proud of:

“

"Operationalizing our people-centered
approach and creating a culture that
values people as partners in our work
for animals."

“

College superlative:

"Most likely to own a humane society.
Seriously! I have the certificate
at work!"

“

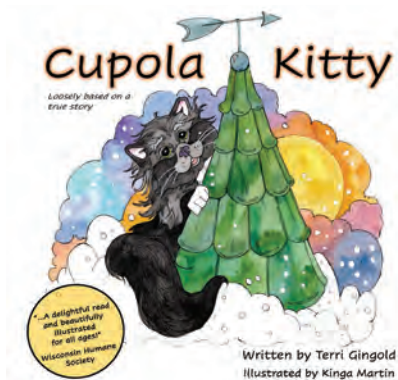
Favorite WHS value:

"Innovation, the status quo is
there is no status quo, and that's
what makes it fun."

CUPOLA KITTY: LOCAL WRITER GIVES BACK

Looking for a heartwarming animal story to share with your kids? Look no further than Cupola Kitty by local author Terri Gingold. Inspired by her own experience with outdoor kitties, Terri wrote this children's storybook to encourage looking out for free-roaming cats in your neighborhood and exploring trap, neuter, release programs near you. Terri is a retired Milwaukee Public School teacher who taught kindergarten for over 30 years. She has utilized lessons learned in the classroom and her love of animals to create a story that teaches about cooperation, the value of friendship, and love of family.

In the book, readers will help Mama Kitty search for her lost son, Fluffy! You'll join the



neighborhood animals as they problem solve a way to rescue Fluffy from a snow-covered cupola. What will happen when a family of raccoons, two skunks, and a clever opossum work together to bring Fluffy safely back to his mama? Pick up this delightful story about love, cooperation, and friendship to find out!

We are so grateful that Terri has donated back 100% of the royalties from Cupola Kitty to the Wisconsin Humane Society. So far, they have raised more than \$590 for the animals at WHS and our programs. You can give back too by purchasing a copy of this wonderful book! Pick up a copy on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for under \$10 or in our Animal Antics store at the WHS Milwaukee Campus!

THE WISCONSIN HUMANE SOCIETY RECEIVES \$50,000 GRANT TO HELP PREPARE ANIMALS FOR ADOPTION, #THANKSTOMADDIE

WHS has received a \$50,000 grant from Maddie's Fund®, a national family foundation established by Dave and Cheryl Duffield to revolutionize the status and well-being of companion animals. The funding will support adoption preparation, which includes medical examinations, behavioral assessments, spay/neuter surgery, vaccinations, flea medication, and a microchip before shelter animals are ready for adoption.

"WHS finds homes for more than 10,000 animals every year, and there are no time or space limits for any animals in our adoption program," said Alison Kleibor, executive vice president. "Thanks

to Maddie, this grant will ensure that animals receive expert care before they are ready for new loving homes."

The grant will impact the lives of hundreds of animals who come through the doors of WHS, many of whom need medical or behavioral support before they are ready for adoption. In 2021, 1,808 animals received extra behavior support, and 5,705 animals received medical treatment beyond standard spay/neuter surgery and routine vaccinations. Thank you, Maddie's Fund®!

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

This outgoing stray was quite affectionate when he arrived on our doorstep, despite how terrible he must have felt. Gizmo was sneezing, congested, and suffering from a severe viral infection called conjunctivitis which put him at risk of blindness. Once he was stable enough to undergo surgery, our veterinary team had no choice but to remove what remained of his right eye while saving his left from the same fate. For the next two months, his foster family made sure the little patient had everything he needed to make a full recovery. Once he was back on all four paws, they even found a loving family to adopt him!

When his adopters walked into the room, it was love at first sight – especially between Gizmo and his new human sister. He has settled wonderfully into his new life and we are so happy knowing he's cherished to the moon and back.



MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF ANIMALS



Dr. Arvind Ahuja and his wife, Namrata, have shared their love of animals with WHS for many years. The Ahujas have been long-time supporters of our life-saving work, as well as advocates for homeless animals in the community. Volunteering his time at Pets for Life clinics and other community outreach events, Dr. Ahuja has become a true friend and supporter of our animals.

Most recently, the Ahujas named the Arrivals/Intake space at our new Racine Campus in Mount Pleasant. We are beyond grateful for their generosity and for the difference they are making in the lives of so many animals. At a recent event celebrating the Racine Campus, we were honored to be able to share with the Ahujas the sign that now welcomes visitors to our Racine Campus.

Thank you, Arvind and Namrata, for being such wonderful friends to so many animals!

MICHELLE AND SADIE PETS FOR LIFE

After leaving a flyer on her porch, we received a call from Michelle who had gotten her dog, Sadie, last year from a friend who passed away. Michelle was so excited to have Sadie spayed at no cost through our Pets for Life program. When we came to pick up Sadie for her appointment, Michelle shared how much joy and comfort Sadie has brought their family since her friend died. The love that Michelle had for her friend continues in the bond she has created with Sadie, and we were grateful for the opportunity to provide this family with the care they needed.

WHS is so grateful for the support of individual donors and our partners who make this program possible: HSUS, The Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust, Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Laura J. Niles Foundation, Anon Charitable Trust, Ralph Evinrude Foundation, and Maihaugen Foundation.



Yes, I want to help support the Wisconsin Humane Society!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift to help:

- ☐ Milwaukee Campus
- ☐ Ozaukee Campus
- ☐ Racine Campus
- ☐ Green Bay Campus
- ☐ Door County Campus
- ☐ Wildlife
- ☐ Greatest Need

- ☐ \$25
- ☐ \$50
- ☐ \$75
- ☐ Other \$ _____

Summer '22

Scan the QR code
with your smartphone's
camera to donate online!



- ☐ Please send me information on providing for animals in my will.
- ☐ I have enclosed my company's matching gift form.

Thank you! Please complete
this slip with your gift to ensure proper credit.

- ☐ Save the postage! Please do not send me a tax acknowledgement/thank-you letter.

DONATION PAYMENT METHOD

☐ **CREDIT CARD** Name on Card: _____ Card Type: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard ☐ Discover
Credit Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: ____/____/____
CVV Code: _____ Amount: \$ _____ ☐ One-time Gift ☐ Monthly Gift

☐ **CHECK** I have enclosed a check payable to *Wisconsin Humane Society*.

☐ **AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL ENROLLMENT**

I would like to maximize my impact for animals by enrolling in automatic, monthly donations from my checking account. I understand that I may cancel this arrangement in writing at any time.

- ☐ I have included a voided check and authorize WHS to withdraw \$ _____ from my account the 10th of every month.

Signature: _____



ONE SONGBIRD SAVED BY ANOTHER

Hypothermic with contaminated feathers, one songbird was lucky enough to cross paths with another (sorry, couldn't resist the pun!). Amos Lee, a singer/songwriter, was in Milwaukee for a concert at the Pabst Theater when he came across a House Sparrow in distress. After heavy rains, she was soaking wet, hypothermic, unable to fly, and in respiratory distress. Amos and his team called our wildlife rehabilitation center, and with the guidance of our staff, they safely contained and transported her to WHS for care. With a warm place to rest, some nourishment, and a bit of cleaning up, we're happy to report she made a full recovery and was successfully released! Thank you to Amos and company for all their kindness and compassion. And thank you to our wonderful community for supporting this life-saving work!



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414-ANIMALS | www.wihumane.org

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PAWS & CLAWS GALA AUCTION ITEMS NEEDED

Do you have unused gift cards, nice bottles of wine or liquor, new home electronics, or one-of-a-kind items at home? Consider donating them to support animals for this year's gala auction! All funds raised will directly benefit the animals in our care.

For more information or to make a donation,
please visit www.wihumane.org/gala
or email mkopca@wihumane.org

We know that there are many worthy causes to support right now, and we are so grateful to you for considering the animals!

PAWS & CLAWS GALA | PRESENTED BY  petco love
A NONPROFIT CHANGING LIVES

Barkingham Palace

AT THE PFISTER HOTEL

BENEFITTING:



SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 15

For more information on this year's gala, including sponsorships and tickets,
please visit www.wihumane.org/gala or email events@wihumane.org

